

Summer? 73

Bulletin

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PRICE 20 cents.

NEWSLETTER.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

MAJOR EVENT.

On Sunday, 9th September at 2.30 p.m., Dr.J.Allen Hynek will address the Victorian U.F.O. Research Society, at the Dallas Brooks Hall, Victoria Street, Melbourne.

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The doors will be open at 1.30 p.m. and members are urged to arrive early to secure the best seats.

This outstanding occasion will be advertised by Radio, T.V. and the Press.

Dr.Hynek, the former Chief Civilian consultant to the U.S. Air Force, on the UFO subject, is in Australia attending the International Astronomical Meeting in Sydney. During his presence in this part of the world, he will lecture to various organisations in Australia and New Zealand. He will also go to New Guinea to talk to witnesses and visit the site of the famous sighting of Rev.Gill. Fr.Gill is a top priority witness to be interviewed by Dr. Hynek.

While in Victoria on 7th, 8th and 9th September, Dr. Hynek would like to talk to other close encounter case witnesses whose sightings occurred in daytime. He is not especially interested in lights in the sky unless they were exceptional.

Dr. Hynek earned his BS in Astronomy and PhD. at the University of Chicago. In the past he has served as Associate Director of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory at Harvard where he taught for four years in addition to establishing the United States Program for Optical Tracking of Satellites; under his direction twelve tracking stations were set up around the world.

His new book, 'The UFO Experience', will be on sale at the hall by a Space Age Book Shop Representative. Members with current membership card in hand will be allowed 10% discount. Hylands Book Shop, Flinders Street, also allows 10% discount to V.U.F.O.R.S. Members.

Due to our financial contribution to Dr. Hynek's visit, it will be necessary to charge an admission. On show of membership card, members will be admitted for \$1.00, non-members \$2.00, at the door. If you do not have a current membership card, please secure one immediately as Staff will not have records to check at the entrance to the hall, and we wouldn't want to place you in an embarrassing position.

There will be NO MONTHLY MEETING at the National Mutual Theatrette in September because of this most important occasion.

We anticipate an attendance record of up to 2,000 so we impress upon members and their friends to be early.

FLYING SAUCER FACTS HIDDEN - ASTRONOMER.

Warr ambool "Standard" - 30th July, 1973.

New York, (AAP-R). - A leading American astronomer is challenging the official United States military assertion that 'flying saucers' - or unidentifiable flying objects (UFOs), are imaginary.

Dr. J.A. Hynek, former astronomical consultant to the U.S. Air Force's UFO investigating team and now director of the Linköping Astronomical Research Centre at Northwestern University in Chicago, has accused the Air Force of suppressing reports of UFO sightings that have not been explained.

In a recently published book - "The UFO Experience - A Scientific Enquiry" - Dr. Hynek calls for a rigorous scientific probe into UFO reports submitted by two or more witnesses. He said in an interview that 90 per cent of UFO reports had been successfully explained, but deplored what he described as a curtain of ridicule obscuring the remainder.

As an example of how the Air Force drew its conclusions. Dr. Hynek said an official recorder would "write they saw Jupiter, when Jupiter wasn't around, or 'possibly aircraft', though no planes were in the area".

"Later on, they might transcribe their explanation to read just 'aircraft', dropping the qualifier".

Unclassified Air Force files included data on strange lights seen at night, discs spotted in daylight, appearances that affected radar and damped small sources of electrical energy, hoverings that scorched the ground or left other physical evidence and observations of humanoids, he said.

HALLUCINATIONS

Some of the observations could be tested, such as electrical effects, to yield "hard data", but the opportunities were allowed to disappear in an anti-scientific fashion by treating the reports as hallucinations or hoaxes.

Physicists had dismissed ball-lightning and pebble showers from meteorites in much the same way, he said.

Dr. Hynek himself has been widely lampooned in the American press for suggesting that UFO phenomena were caused by swamp gas.

One cartoon showed an African village chief dismissing a plane flying overhead as "swamp Gas".

NEW APPROACH.

In his own defence, he said he used the gas explanation only for some faint lights seen over Michigan swamps, and charged that reporters used the explanation to cover all possible sightings.

Dr. Hynek suggests a new, more objective approach to the mystery of UFO's, using statistical techniques to examine reports for patterns of similarity, and geographical and seasonal distribution around the world, a method that has never been used.

"The first step means starting almost from scratch: data gathering and data processing", he said. "This may seem a most pedestrian approach to a most exciting topic, but so far we have only an airy, unsubstantial structure built on a quicksand foundation of unprocessed, generally incomplete and qualitative rather than quantitative data."

INTERNATIONAL.

He also wants central scientific stations where "citizens can go and make reports (and) be treated with dignity," with an international clearing house directed by the United Nations.

The more interest scientists have shown in the topic, he noted, the more the "crackpots" have turned away from it.

But one occurrence in Dr. Hynek's book left the impression that active research is being carried on by unknown investigators.

In one incident, the day after four men said they saw a mystery vehicle and "humanoids" in a North Dakota field, "one of the men was called out from work and led into the presence of men he had never seen before.

They asked to be taken to his home, where they examined his clothing he had worn the night before, especially his boots, and left without any further word.

Asked to comment on this, Dr. Hynek said: "In at least half a dozen cases, men who represented themselves as Air Force officials visited witnesses (to flying-saucer phenomena) and confiscated photographs and negatives before the sighting was publicised.

But I have a letter from the Air Force saying that the masqueraders definitely are not connected with them."

WIDE INTEREST.

How the probes found out before the news broke remains a puzzle and "one of the aspects I don't like," Dr. Hynek said.

Meanwhile, the book he wrote to set the record straight has sold a surprising 35,000 copies since late last year.

"It has had a very definite influence on younger scientists who said the book set them thinking," he said, "but they still can't get research grants".

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UFO'S IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD.

Mozambique. UFO tails airliner.

This report from Portuguese East Africa is taken from the Rhodesia Herald of February 8, 1973 - "A Boeing 737 jet of Mozambique's Deta airline was followed by an unidentified flying object for 20 minutes on a flight from Beira to Lourenço Marques.

"The plane was flying at a height of 8,400m and a speed of 850km/h when the aircraft's veteran commander, Captain Gilberto Costa, and first pilot Edgar Nasi Pereira saw the object. "They immediately called two airline hostesses to the cockpit to corroborate the sighting. "In a report submitted to the airline's (cont'd.)

(cont'd. from page 2 article 'UFO tails airliner')

administration and the Mozambique military authorities, the crew said the object followed the airliner for about 20 minutes.

"It switched from the right to the left side of the aircraft a few times with red lights flashing before disappearing at enormous speed".

Credit Philipp J. Human for English Flying Saucer Review.

ENGLAND. Landing in Hertfordshire?

This intriguing item is taken straight from the front page of the 'Evening Echo' (Hemel Hempstead) of February 12, 1973, where it appeared under the signature of John Goidstream -

"A mysterious object claimed to have been seen hovering near a Hertfordshire road is being investigated by experts. It is said to have made a brief appearance in the early hours one morning at the end of last week.

"According to three eyewitnesses, it seemed to hang almost motionless above a field next to the A414 Hemel Hempstead-St. Albans Road, near the M10 fly-over.

"Jim Sutcliffe, aged 28, was driving home to Howlands, Welwyn Garden City, at about three o'clock in the morning. 'Just where the road goes under the M10 bridge I saw a lot of cars pulled up at the side,' he said.

"I stopped and everyone was looking over a gate at a big, yellow glowing ball, hovering above the ground. As one of the astonished watchers went to tell the police, the thing shot straight up in the air and vanished."

"Drivers who saw the incident said the 'Thing' appeared to be about 20 or 30 feet above the ground. 'It looked at least 100 yards away,' said Jim.

"An anonymous caller told the 'Evening Echo' that when he reached the bridge his car cut out for no reason and started again when the light rose.

"St. Albans police confirmed that a third eyewitness from Edgware reported the sighting.

"A spokesman for the British Unidentified Flying Object Research Association said the sightings would be investigated."

Landing near Dover?

Here is an account taken from the Dover Express of February 9, 1973 -

"An unidentified flying object was seen near the Dover-Deal road - flying in to land over Martin Mill and then taking off from a field near the Swingate Inn and heading towards St. Margaret's.

"Motor insurance underwriter, 29-year-old Mr. Barry Watts, of Sutherland Road, Deal, said he saw the object while driving towards Dover at 7.15 p.m. on Tuesday last week.

"He said: 'Near the first turning to St. Margaret's I saw this large amber flaming ball flashing across the sky from my right.

"I lost sight of it for a while but it seemed to be getting lower. Near the Swingate I saw it take off from a field, about 100 yards away, and heading towards the sea over St. Margaret's. It took off like a rocket."

"Mr. Watts said he could not describe the object in detail 'It was unbelievable and weird.... I've never seen anything like it before,' he said".

Credit: English 'Flying Saucer Review'

The following are addresses of some reliable publications overseas:-

Flying Saucer Review,

Gemini

The Editor,
21 Cecil Court.
Charing Cross Road.
London. WC2N 4HB, England.

20A Dyke Road,
Brighton BN1 3JA Sussex. England.
Subscription rates £1.30 or equiv.
for 4 issues.

Subscription £2.10 or equivalent.

Canadian UFO Report,
Box 758,
Duncan, B.C. Canada.

INFO (International Fortean
Organisation)
P.O. Box 367 Arlington
Virginia, 22210, U.S.A.
Subscription rate \$4.00

POWER PROJECT EXAMINED .. Canadian UFO Report.

It was 10 o'clock on the hot still night of August 26, 1967, when at least a dozen residents at McLeese Lake on the Cariboo Highway, British Columbia, saw a glowing blood-red object about the size of a soccer ball move into sight from the south. It was travelling directly above newly installed cables leading to the giant Peace River power project to be far to the north.

"It didn't seem to be in any hurry and it stayed right over those lines as if it was studying them," said Mrs. Alfred Beck.

A noteworthy point of this incident was that the Peace River project had not then started operation, so no power was passing through the cables at the time. Therefore the object's interest, for reasons unknown, must have been focussed on the mere existence of the system.

EINSTEIN HAS BEEN WRONGED.

Some months ago, an article appeared in Australasian Post magazine which was called "Faster Than Light". This article stated that Einstein may have been wrong in his (so called) theory that nothing travels faster than light. Astronomical studies have found that matter from Quasars (luminous objects in deep space which emit strong radio radiations as well as invisible light) was blowing apart at a rate up to ten (10) times the speed of light.

I previously stated that Einstein's theory was only a so-called one. The reason I say this is because he never made the statement that nothing could travel faster than light! In fact what he did say was that at the speed of light, mass would become infinite.

Now scientists have always presumed and I repeat that word 'presumed', that Einstein's theories on relativity meant that he was against any possibility of anything being able to travel faster than light. But in fact a noted U.S. Biologist, Ivan T. Sanderson (the late Science Editor of America's Argosy Magazine) has said (see his book "Uninvited Visitors" Page 179) that the great scientist stated shortly before he died, that he never said that the speed of light was ultimate, but what he did say was that at around 180,000 miles per second (the speed of light as most people know, is 186,000 miles per second), mass would become infinite - that your backside would become your frontside and time would come to a stop.

In other words, there is no reason theoretical or otherwise, why that particular speed cannot be exceeded and if it can be, one might get time-inversion and other disturbing conditions. In a nut-shell, it means that the speed of light or anything else is not an ultimate but merely another turn-over point, (like the speed of sound at any particular degree of density of air).

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In fact, there are quite a number of things that go faster than light apart from Quasars. One of these is Cherenkov Radiation (named after its Soviet discoverer) which travels at twice the speed of light through water. In the electronics field, when two radar waves meet in feed tubes, a compression wave is generated that travels some one and a half (1½) times faster than light. Then there is the Neutrino, the sub atomic nuclear particle, the evidence for which is indisputable and the major preoccupation of astronomers at the moment, the mysterious black holes in space.

REPORTS FROM THE PRESS. Victoria.

"Mystery Ring of Melrose". Another of those mystery rings has been found by grazier Jack Russell on his property, "Melrose", at Nurrabiel, 20 miles south of Horsham. In May this year, Mr. Russell was startled to find a perfect circle on bare ground. It had a circumference of about 90 feet marked by a band of about 20 inches wide. The earth inside the band was devoid of grass or other vegetation. In its place was a sprinkling of peculiar grey dust, foreign to the district. "I'd never seen anything like this before on Melrose", Jack said. "You know, it was about the time people were seeing queer objects in the sky. I said nothing about it at the time. I'd have been a bit of a dill....."

When reporting the incident about a month later, Mr. Russell said: "I noticed that the grass had grown up again on the bare patch. You've never seen anything like the colour of the grass in the ring. It's a vivid green - quite unlike the colour of the rest of the pasture....What do I reckon it is? - I'm blown if I know".

Horsham MailTimes, 8/6/1973.

"Flying Orange" passes over Moe. Before Monday night, Mr. Robert Wheatley, of South Street, Moe, was very sceptical about UFOs. But in two short minutes soon after 10 p.m. he had his confidence shattered when he saw a bright orange object pass over Moe towards Narracan.

Mr. Wheatley, who had gone outside to his garage, said the object was about the same size as the moon and it took 2½ minutes to cross the sky before disappearing. His wife, Ann, saw the "thing" and next door neighbour, Mr. Bill Adams, came out just as it disappeared. Mr. Wheatley's dog, "Sam" went mad while the object crossed the sky. He moaned and raced round in circles until it had disappeared.

Mr. Wheatley described the object as "something like a jelly fish without any tentacles". It had a bright orange centre and the colour got paler near the outside. Mr. Wheatley's brother, who is a meteorologist, said the object didn't sound like a weather balloon.

A spokesman for the RAAF base at East Sale said there were no flights from the base after 8 p.m. on Monday night.

Latrobe Valley Express (Morwell) 13/6/1973.

UFO SIGHTED OVER ECHUCA. - An unidentified flying object was sighted by a Premier St. resident at about 6 o'clock this morning. The object was about the size of a clenched fist at arm's length and appeared to be above the airfield, approximately 45 degrees from the horizon.

Predominantly green with blue, red and silver flashes, the object was observed for about 25 minutes before quickly rising vertically and disappearing and disappearing. After about 10 minutes of being sighted the UFO threw out a comet-like object which travelled at great speed and disappeared over the horizon. To the left of the main object was a red glow which grew lighter and faded entirely.

At one stage the object appeared to drop in altitude but did not look as if it would come down to earth.

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NOBODY ABLE TO EXPLAIN UFO AT ECHUCA. - This was the title of a longer article on the sighting in the Echuca Herald 6/7/73. According to the article, the Bureau of Meteorology and the Air Force had ruled out weather balloons or aircraft as explanations. However, a RAAF spokesman was quoted: "We did not receive an official report of this sighting, but can only suggest that it may have been 'space junk' burning up as it re-entered the atmosphere".

The article also reported that Glenn Fawcett, 13 year old paper boy, who had also seen the UFO, saw another one the next morning. He said: "It wasn't like the one on Wednesday. This one looked like a fire-ball about 20 feet off the ground and left a long trail behind it as it disappeared behind some trees. I suppose it could have been a shooting star, but it was not like a lot of them. I was travelling horizontally but most of them come down from the sky".

The Herald commented on the sighting in an editorial entitled "Thinking About UFOs":

"....People who spot UFOs are often labelled as cranks and over-indulgers, the latter being quite capable of spotting pink elephants as well

.....UFOs seen over Australia in recent years have been substantiated to the extent that evidence of their presence has been discovered in numerous places close to populated areas. Photographs advancing certain theories are convincing and when it is appreciated that earthlings are now making trips to the moon and living for weeks in space laboratories, why shouldn't we consider the aspect of life on other planets wanting to look at their earth neighbours?

UFO OVER EYRE STREET. - A receptionist is convinced she saw an unidentified flying object on Saturday night. Margaret Campbell, 17, said she saw the flying saucer as she was walking south down Ripon St. about 8.30 p.m. She said the saucer was flying west parallel to, but not quite above Eyre St. The saucer was grey and was edged with alternate red and white flashing lights. She saw the object bank in an arc above her as it came overhead. Hoping to point out the UFO to her mother, Margaret ran the 150 yards to her home in Eyre St. and banged on the door, but by the time her mother had opened the door, the object was disappearing. Margaret said that her mother and herself last saw it as a flashing red and white light in the western sky.

Ballarat Courier, 11/7/1973.

ACTIVITY AROUND AUSTRALIA, 1973.

Jan. 30: Large noiseless, silver boomerang shaped object observed over Rockhampton, Q. at about 9.15 pm, by a Rockhampton man and his wife. The man said it was no more than 400 feet high and speed about 200 mph.

Rockhampton Morning Bulletin, 3/2/1973.

Feb. 2: Wondai, (Q) newsagent reported sighting two objects that were "definitely saucer-shaped, with turrets in the centre". The objects, seen about 1 am, were observed also by his wife and two sons. The objects emitted bright flashing lights with colours including violet, blue, green and white.

"We couldn't hear any sound from the objects, but the dogs were making a row and cattle in the area were also king up a noise", said the newsagent.

South Burnett Times (Q), 7/2/1973.

Feb. Three identical "burnt off" patches discovered in otherwise lush paddocks, each 17 feet in diameter, near Temora, NSW. The first was observed about 12 months previously and the latest about early Feb. The latest one found had an 18 inch section running around the circle which was completely bare and inside the clover runners had been flattened. Fungus growth could be a possible explanation but the exact size is puzzling.

Temore independent, 28/3/1973.

March: "Mystery Marks in Field Puzzle Graingrower".

"There appears to be no logical explanation for the circular marks which mysteriously appeared in the field of sugar drip adjacent to South St. Roma last week. The appearance of the strange marks coincided with reports of UFOs in the area".

"Was it a Visitor from Outer Space?" says the caption of a picture of the marks... 'Did Roma have a visitor from outer space last week?....An interesting thing to note is that all the heads of grain are facing the same way. No one can explain why'.

Roma Star (Q), 20/3/1973.

Mar. 12: Couple in a car at Naracoorte observed for 5 minutes at 11.20 pm a very bright, pale orange glowing object in the sky at just above building height in the vicinity of a transformer station. It was like a large oblong shaped sign tilted at an angle of approximately 30 degs.

Naracoorte Herald, 15/3/1973.

April: Two Gladstone women, Mrs.A.Coomber and Mrs.B.Smith of Gladstone reported seeing on two occasions, between 7.05 and 7.15 pm an object flying low over the South Gladstone State School. They said it appeared square with flashing red lights, which on ceasing, was replaced by a pulsating green light. When the object gathered speed an orange glow was seen beneath it.

Gladstone Observer (Q), 12/4/1973.

(cont'd page 6.)

ACTIVITY AROUND AUSTRALIA, (cont'd).

April 20: "Zooming UFO Startles Family".

"...Hendrick Hirsimaki, 44, a pipe fitter with MtIsa Mines Ltd., told the Northwest Star yesterday of the sighting which he claimed to have seen - with the family - at 3.30 am on the outskirts of Longreach... He said that he and his family were passing Longreach airport at 3.30 am when a bright light came towards them.

"I thought it a jet at first, going to land on the airstrip", said Mr.Hirsimaki. "I thought it switched on its lights to land at the nearby airstrip. The light was very bright. It came towards us at a height of about 50 feet. I pulled off to the side of the roadway and stopped the car. It was travelling very fast - just like a jet - then, almost above us, it zoomed into the air to about 100 feet and stopped. Then it started to spin - a bright yellow light....

"...At that height the light seemed to spin around in a circle every half second. It appeared to be spinning around a diameter of about 20 feet. It then went up in the air until it was just a dot in the sky. Then it travelled north - just like a fast travelling satellite....

"...After this thing left us I tried to start the car, but the battery seemed almost flat. I cannot explain it..."

Northwest Star (Mr.Isa) 25/4/1973.

April 22: 7 pm. A 13 year old girl reported that she saw a large round shaped object glowing brightly, hovering at a high altitude, at Mcranbah, near Rockhampton. The object descended and appeared to land about a mile and a half away.

She said she watched the object for about an hour. She said its colour alternated from dark red to light red as it appeared to spin around.

Rockhampton Bulletin, 26/4/1973.

April 28: About 10.30 pm. Four teenagers claimed they saw a UFO land in a paddock near Kempsey, NSW. Miss Sue Vabsley of Kempsey describes the sighting:

"...When I first saw it, the object was a bright yellow colour, broken by a lime green colour around the head of it as it dived towards the ground. We kept driving, thinking we had seen the last of it, but when we had driven another 200 yards, I noticed a distant glow in a paddock about a mile to the east. ...A funny thing happened - it seemed that our headlights blacked out momentarily. There was no reflection from them at all....

...We all saw it clearly. The object at this stage was dome-shaped, something like a helmet, and had changed colour to a reddish orange. It kept changing colours to reds and oranges and seemed to be suspended about 3 feet above the ground..."

Kempsey Argus, 1/5/1973.

May 2: Mr.R.R.Zadow was driving across his property at Kalyan (SA) at about 8 pm when his engine and lights cut completely out. Almost overhead was a glowing object about 18 inches across. It had approached silently at about 40 feet above ground level. As the UFO departed, the lights and engine suddenly burst into life again.

Murray Bridge Standard, 10/5/1973.

May 18: After 9 pm another car stopped in the Murray Bridge area as a UFO was observed hovering about the vehicle. Said a witness: "There was a strange pulsating light, glowing and fading. We were all pretty scared as it was an uncanny feeling of something we couldn't understand".

Murray Bridge Observer 31/5/1973.

May 23: "Terror for Three in Car"..... Mr.M.C.Sherlock reports that his three teenage children were frightened while driving a car near Mt.Gambier in the evening. They described the object as large, round, and spinning around. There were lots of red lights on it, some green and others blue or purple. The object followed an undulating course, hovered for a few seconds and then came towards the car. It appeared to go straight up and over the car, came down the other side and then glowed and vanished.

Mt.Gambier Border Watch, 24/5/1973.

May: Activity at Roma, Q.
"A"Leader" reporter, after receiving reports of an UFO last Friday morning, made extensive enquiries over the weekend. Monday morning brought details of more sightings and it is obvious that there is now no doubt that an UFO is making regular appearances in the Roma and District areas".

Roma Star, 29/5/1973.

June: Two large circles found at Bellbridge on the shores of Lake Hume, one about 22 feet in diameter, the other about 30 feet. Mervyn Evers, who found the smaller one, attributed the phenomenon to UFOs. "You couldn't put it down to anything else", he said.

Albury Border Morning Mail, 2/6/1973.

Mr.Tom Bradden told the Melbourne Observer:

"I have never believed in flying saucers, but I am 90% sure that something from space has made these weird circles. It looks to me as if some vehicle has landed there, burning the ground and leaving a white powder on the top.

Observer, 10/6/1973.

DON'T FORGET TO REPORT SIGHTINGS YOU FEEL ARE OUTSTANDING AND GENUINE TO
OUR SIGHTINGS INVESTIGATIONS TEAM.

TWO REMINDERS TO MEMBERS!

DON'T FORGET YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARDS WHEN ATTENDING DALLAS BROOKS HALL.